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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 - 24 (canceled).

25. (new): A digital information distribution control method in a system having a server performing a delivery service of digital information and an information processing terminal receiving the delivery service of the digital information,

wherein delivery data including the digital information and distribution control information representing a data transfer control condition is delivered from the server to the information processing terminal,

the delivery data is stored in the information processing terminal,

to control transfer of information including the delivery data between the information processing terminal and another information processing terminal depending on the distribution control information,

the information including the delivery data generated by using unique information of the information processing terminal is transferred and stored in the other information processing terminal, and,

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before the information including the delivery data stored in the other information processing terminal is re-stored in the information processing terminal, it is determined depending on the distribution control information whether re-storing in the information processing terminal is possible or impossible.

26. (new) A digital information distribution control method in a system having a server performing a delivery service of digital information and an information processing terminal receiving the delivery service of the digital information,

wherein delivery data including the digital information and distribution control information representing a data transfer control condition is delivered from the server to the information processing terminal,

the delivery data is stored in the information processing terminal,

to control transfer of information including the delivery data between the information processing terminal and another information processing terminal depending on the distribution control information,

the information including the delivery data generated by using the unique information of the information processing terminal is transferred and stored in the other information processing terminal, and,

before the information including the delivery data stored in the other information processing terminal is re-stored in the information processing terminal, it is determined

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depending on the distribution control information whether inquiry at the server is possible or impossible.

27. (new): The distribution control method according to claim 25,
wherein the distribution control information includes at least one of a transfer
possibility/impossibility determination condition of the information including the delivery data
and an inquiry possibility/impossibility determination condition at the server.

28. (new): A digital information distribution control method in a system having a
server for performing a delivery service of digital information and an information processing
terminal for receiving the delivery service of the digital information,
wherein delivery data including the digital information and distribution control
information representing a data transfer control condition is delivered from the server to the
information processing terminal,
the delivery data is stored in the information processing terminal,
a first safing data including the delivery data is generated by using terminal unique
information allocated to the information processing terminal and transferred to another
information processing terminal,
before delivery data included in safing data stored in the other information processing
terminal is re-stored in the information processing terminal, a safing data transmission request is
transmitted to the other information processing terminal,

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based on the terminal unique information of the information processing terminal, and terminal unique information and distribution control information included in second safing data corresponding to the safing data transmission request, it is determined whether the delivery data included in the second safing data can be re-stored in the information processing terminal or not, and

the delivery data included in the second safing data is stored in the information processing terminal when the delivery data can be re-stored.

29. (new): The distribution control method according to claim 28,
wherein the distribution control information designates at least one of a transfer possibility/impossibility determination condition of the safing information and an inquiry possibility/impossibility determination condition at the server.

30. (new): The distribution control method according to claim 29,
wherein when server inquiry is designated by the distribution control information of the second safing data, safing data inquiry including the second safing data and the safing data transmission request is transmitted to the server.

31. (new): The distribution control method according to claim 30,
wherein the server determines whether updating of the second safing data included in the safing data inquiry is possible or impossible when the safing data inquiry is received,

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when the updating is possible, updated safing data obtained by updating the second safing data by using server unique information allocated to the server is generated, and the updated safing data is returned as a response to the safing data inquiry, and
the information terminal receives the updated safing data as second safing data corresponding to the safing data transmission request.

32. (new): The distribution control method according to claim 31,
wherein the updated safing data includes expiration-date information,
the information processing terminal, based on the terminal unique information of the information processing terminal, the terminal unique information ,expiration-date information, and distribution control information included in the second safing data, , determines whether the delivery data can be re-stored in the information processing terminal or not.

33. (new): The distribution control method according to claim 31,
wherein the information processing terminal further adds the request specifying information to the safing data transmission request to transmit the safing data transmission request and the request specifying information to the other information processing terminal;
the server returns the updated safing data including the request specifying information, and
the information processing terminal, based on the terminal unique information of the information processing terminal, the terminal unique information ,request specifying

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information, and distribution control information included in the second safing data, , determines whether the delivery data can be re-stored in the information processing terminal or not.

34. (new): The distribution control method according to claim 33,
wherein the request specifying information is a random number generated in the data transmission request.

35. (new): The distribution control method according to claim 28,
wherein the distribution control information designates at least one of a possibility/impossibility condition of data transfer, a necessity/unnecessity condition of encryption in information transfer, and an inquiry possibility/impossibility condition at the server.

36. (new): The distribution control method according to claim 35,
wherein the terminal unique information includes at least the identification information of a distribution signature creating key, a distribution signature verifying key, a terminal certification, an encrypting key, an encrypting key certification, a decrypting key, and identification information.

37. (new): The distribution control method according to claim 36
wherein the information processing terminal

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encrypts digital information included in the delivery data by using the encrypting key included in the terminal unique information when the distribution control information designates encryption in data transfer,

generates the first safing data by using the delivery data including the encrypted digital information to transfer the first safing data to the other information processing terminal, and decrypts the encrypted digital information of the delivery data included in the second safing data by using the decrypting key included in the terminal unique information.

38. (new): A mobile information terminal which receives delivery of the digital information from a server performing a delivery service of the digital information and which can perform data transfer with another information processing terminal for backup, comprising:

delivery data storing unit which receives and stores delivery data including distribution control information representing a condition to regulate data transfer and the digital information from the server;

terminal unique information storing unit which stores terminal unique information allocated to the mobile information terminal;

safing data generating unit which generates the first safing data including the delivery data by using the terminal unique information to transfer the delivery data from the delivery data storing unit to the other information processing terminal, and which transmits the first safing data to the other information processing terminal;

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data transmission request generating unit which performs data transmission request to the other information processing terminal before the second safing data is received from the other information processing terminal to re-store delivery data included in the second safing data in the delivery data storing unit; and

safing data verifying unit which verifies whether the second safing data can be re-stored or not by using the terminal unique information of the mobile information terminal ,and terminal unique information and distribution control information included in the second safing data when the second safing data is received from the other information processing terminal as a response of the data transmission request, and which stores the delivery data included in the second safing data in the delivery data storing unit.

39. (new): The mobile information terminal according to claim 38, further comprising

determining unit which determines whether transfer of the second safing data to the delivery data storing unit is possible or impossible by using the terminal unique information of the mobile information terminal and , terminal unique information and distribution control information included in the second safing data when the second safing data is received from the other information processing terminal as a response of the data transmission request, and

wherein when the second safing data can be transferred to the delivery data storing unit, the safing data verifying unit verifies whether the second safing data can be restored or not.

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40. (new): The mobile information terminal according to claim 39,
wherein the distribution control information designates at least one of a
possibility/impossibility condition of data transfer, a possibility/impossibility condition of
inquiry at the server.

41. (new): The mobile information terminal according to claim 40,
wherein the determining unit transmits safing data inquiry including the data transmission
request and the second safing data to the server when server inquiry is designated by the
distribution control information of the second safing data.

42. (new): A server which performs a delivery service of digital information to an
information processing terminal, comprising:
server unique information storing unit which stores server unique information including
at least the identification information of a distribution signature creating key, a distribution
signature verifying key, a service provider certification, and identification information allocated
to the server;

delivery data management unit which generates delivery data including the digital
information and distribution control information representing a data transfer control condition
and designating at least one of a possibility/impossibility condition of data transfer, a
necessity/unnecessity condition of encryption in information transfer, and an inquiry

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possibility/impossibility condition at the server to deliver the delivery data to the information processing terminal; and

safing data updating unit which, when safing data inquiry including terminal unique information of the information processing terminal which includes at least the identification information of a distribution signature creating key, a distribution signature verifying key, a terminal certification, an encrypting key, an encrypting key certification, a decrypting key, and identification information and safing data including the delivery data generated by the terminal unique information from the information processing terminal, determines whether updating of the safing data included in the safing data inquiry is possible or impossible, and which updates the safing data when the updating is possible to return the updated safing data to the information processing terminal as a response of the safing data inquiry.

43. (new): An information processing apparatus which can be connected to a mobile information terminal receiving delivery data including distribution control information representing a condition to regulate data transfer and digital information from a server and which backs up the delivery data received by the mobile information terminal, comprising:

safing data storing unit which stores a first safing data including the delivery data generated by using terminal unique information which includes at least the identification information of a distribution signature creating key, a distribution signature verifying key, a terminal certification, an encrypting key, an encrypting key certification, a decrypting key, and identification information allocated to the mobile information terminal; and

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determining unit which receives safing data transmission request for re-storing the delivery data included in the first safing data stored in the safing data storing unit from the mobile information terminal and determines whether the stored first safing data is returned to the mobile information terminal as second safing data based on the received data transmission request and terminal unique information and distribution control information designating at least one of a possibility/impossibility condition of data transfer, a necessity/unnecessity condition of encryption in information transfer, and an inquiry possibility/impossibility condition at the server of the first safing data stored in the safing data storing unit.

44. (new): A distribution control system having at least a server performing a delivery service of digital information, a first information processing terminal receiving delivery of the digital information, and a second information processing terminal which can perform data transfer with the first information processing terminal,

wherein the server has at least delivery data management unit which generates delivery data obtained by adding distribution control information representing a condition to regulate data transfer to the digital information to transmit the delivery data to the first information processing terminal;

the first information processing terminal has
at least delivery data storing unit which stores the delivery data,
terminal unique information storing unit which stores terminal unique information which includes at least the identification information of a distribution signature creating key, a

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distribution signature verifying key, a terminal certification, an encrypting key, an encrypting key certification, a decrypting key, and identification information allocated to the first information processing terminal,

safing data generating unit which generates the first safing data including the delivery data by using the terminal unique information to transfer the delivery data from the delivery data storing unit to the second information processing terminal,

data transmission request generating unit which receives second safing data from the second information processing terminal and performs data transmission request to the second information processing terminal to re-store the delivery data included in the second safing data in the delivery data storing unit, and

safing data verifying unit which verifies whether the second safing data can be re-stored or not by using the terminal unique information when the second safing data is received from the second information processing terminal as a request of the data transmission request, and which stores delivery data included in the second safing data in the delivery data storing unit when the second safing data can be re-stored; and

the second information processing terminal has

at least safing data storing unit which stores the first safing data transmitted from the first information processing terminal, and

determining unit which determines, based on the data transmission request and terminal unique information and distribution control information designating at least one of a possibility/impossibility condition of data transfer, a necessity/unnecessity condition of

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encryption in information transfer, and an inquiry possibility/impossibility condition at the server stored in the safing data storing unit, whether the stored safing data is returned to the first information processing terminal as the second safing data or not.

45. (new): A server program which causes a computer to realize a server function performing a delivery service of digital information to an information processing terminal, comprising:

the step of generating delivery data including the digital information and distribution control information representing a data transfer control condition and designating at least one of a possibility/impossibility condition of data transfer, a necessity/unnecessity condition of encryption in information transfer, and an inquiry possibility/impossibility condition at the server to deliver the delivery data to the information processing terminal;

the step of, when safing data inquiry including terminal unique information of the information processing terminal which includes at least the identification information of a distribution signature creating key, a distribution signature verifying key, a terminal certification, an encrypting key, an encrypting key certification, a decrypting key, and identification information and safing data including the delivery data generated by using the terminal unique information is received, determining whether updating of the safing data included in the safing data inquiry is possible or impossible; and

the step of updating the safing data when the updating is possible to return the updated safing data as a response of the safing data inquiry.

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46. (new): A program for a mobile information terminal which causes a computer to receive delivery of the digital information from a server performing a delivery service of digital information and to execute data transfer with another information processing terminal for backup, comprising:

the step of receiving delivery data including distribution

control information representing a condition to regulate data transfer and the digital information from the server and storing the delivery data;

the step of generating a first safing data including the delivery data by using the terminal unique information to transfer the delivery data to the other information processing terminal and transmitting the first safing data to the other information processing terminal;

the step of performing data transmission request to the other information processing terminal before second safing data is received from the other information processing terminal to re-store delivery data included in the second safing data in the delivery data storing unit;

the step of, when the second safing data is received from the other information processing terminal as a response of the data transmission request, verifying whether the second safing data can be re-stored or not by using the terminal unique information of the mobile information terminal and terminal unique information and distribution control information included in the second safing data; and

the step of re-storing delivery data included in the second safing data when the second safing data can be re-stored.

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47. (new): The program for a mobile information terminal according to claim 46, further comprising:

the step of determining whether transfer of the second safing data to the delivery data storing unit is possible or impossible by using the terminal unique information of the mobile information terminal and terminal unique information and distribution control information included in the second safing data when the second safing data is received from the other information processing terminal as a response of the data transmission request, and

the step of verifying whether the second safing data can be re-stored or not by using the safing data verifying unit when the second safing data can be transferred to the delivery data storing unit.